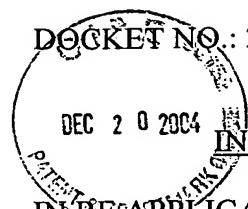


DOCKET NO.: 239461US0CONT



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT & TRADEMARK OFFICE

IN RE APPLICATION OF:

Takashi NAKANO, et al. : GROUP ART UNIT: 1626

SERIAL NO.: 10/632,959 :

FILED: AUGUST 4, 2003 : EXAMINER: SHIAO, R. T.

FOR: NOVEL CYSTINE DERIVATIVE AND AGENT FOR SUPPRESSING
ACTIVATION OF INFLAMMATORY FACTORS

AMENDMENT AND REQUEST FOR RECONSIDERATION

COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
ALEXANDRIA, VA 22313-1450

SIR:

In response to the Official Action dated August 20, 2004, Applicants respectfully request reconsideration of the above-identified application in view of the following amendment and remarks.

Amendments to the Claims begin on page 2 of this response.

Support for the Amendments begin on page 11 of this response.

Remarks begin on page 12 of this response.